



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## More Connecticut Seniors Benefit from Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage

### ***\*\*\*Cheshire Senior to Save \$2,000 a Year\*\*\****

NEW BRITAIN, CT – Every day more and more Connecticut seniors are saving money on the prescriptions they need and deserve through the new Medicare drug benefit.

Take Mrs. Gail Glazewski, 67, of Cheshire, for example. She's saving \$2,000 a year after signing up for the Medicare prescription drug benefit.

Mrs. Glazewski has lived in Cheshire for 25 years and worked as a bank teller. Today, she takes three prescriptions to treat chronic conditions such as joint pain and allergies. Like many Medicare beneficiaries, she did not have prescription drug coverage. She paid \$4,000 a year out of pocket for her drugs until Medicare Rx began.

Last fall she signed up for the Medicare prescription drug coverage that began on January 1<sup>st</sup>. **Now she's going to save \$2,000 a year.**

**"I am the happiest senior citizen in town," Mrs. Glazewski said. "All you have to do is call for help. I am going to save \$2,000 a year. The Medicare drug plan has given me security for the future and peace of mind, and it is saving me money on the drugs I need."**

**"It has helped put money in my pocket. It helped me afford all my other living expenses. I think it's well worth it," she added.**

There are many resources available to help seniors sign up for the Medicare prescription drug benefit, the largest expansion of Medicare since the program began 40 years ago. Below please find helpful hints and information on the Medicare drug benefit.

### **What information do you need before you sign-up?**

- Your Medicare claim number (this information is contained on your Medicare card).
- The drugs you take, including the dosage and the number per month (this information is contained on the pill bottle or medication package).

### How can you get help signing up?

- **Call Connecticut's CHOICES program toll-free at 1-(800) 994-9422.** CHOICES is a public state program, and its counselors are trained and certified to answer any question on the new Medicare drug benefit, particularly questions about ConnPACE and Medicaid.
- Call a Medicare counselor toll-free at 1-(800) MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). They are trained to answer all of your Medicare questions. Or visit Medicare's website: [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov). There you can compare drug plans and sign up for the new drug benefit directly.
- Call your local non-profit Agency on Aging, where you can talk to a trained counselor who can help. The phone number for the Agency on Aging nearest you is below.
  - Meriden residents can call the South Central Connecticut Area Agency on Aging at (203) 785-8533. On the web at [www.agencyonaging-scc.org](http://www.agencyonaging-scc.org)
  - New Britain, Plainville and Farmington Valley residents can call the North Central Area Agency on Aging at (860) 724-6443. On the web at [www.geocities.com/ncaaaus](http://www.geocities.com/ncaaaus)
  - Waterbury, Danbury, and Litchfield County residents, as well those living along the I-84 corridor can contact the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging at (203) 757-5449. On the web at [www.wcaaa.org](http://www.wcaaa.org)

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